



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

May 5, 2020: Volume XXVII, Issue 43

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CE



## Davenport Junior Theater

Daniel Sheridan has served as artistic director for Davenport Junior Theatre for the past 11 years. During that time DJT has shown tremendous growth in the nation's second-oldest children's theater. Since 2008, DJT (which serves area kids ages 3-18) has exploded from 300 registrations to about 1,800 this season, from 30 towns in the area. A big

### April – May Calendar

- May 12 - Legalized marijuana—what it means in the workplace and in the community. Allison Wright, Pappas & O'Connor
- May 19 - Quad City Chamber of Commerce - Liz Tallman, Chief Economic Development Officer
- May 26 - Rock Island Rotary's Kenya Water Project.

growth engine has been the dance program, which launched in 2011 and has expanded from 60 to 240 student. At the end of June, Sheridan will resign as artistic director and the 36-year-old Davenport and DJT alum will stay as the city's performing arts supervisor and will continue to oversee all DJT theater and dance classes, camps, and programs. Sheridan also will continue to oversee the city-owned facility at 2822 Eastern Ave., its development, and all rentals. Junior Theatre, Inc. creatively enriches the lives of Quad-City Area youth by offering education in the Performing Arts. Their Vision is to build on its lasting heritage to become a premier center for the performing arts for youth of all ages and ability levels, enriching their childhood experiences and their knowledge of the performing arts to lead them to a brave, bold tomorrow. DJT advocates six primary values: **Self-Confidence:** We enhance students' life-long ability to express themselves with clarity and conviction. **Friendship:** We provide a safe environment where students interact and form lasting relationships. **Responsibility:** We promote a team environment in which students rely on each other and themselves to fulfill their goals. **Creativity:** We foster individuality and unique ideas expressed on stage and beyond. **Inclusiveness:** We make programs and performances affordable and accessible to all. **Fun:** We believe that theatre arts should be enjoyable, and that FUN is essential to our quality of life. A rosy as the picture may look, it has not always been that way. Founded in 1951 by Leone Bredbeck and Mary Fluhrer Nighswander, their first production debuted in that same year. Junior Theatre rehearsed and performed in various parks, theatres, and churches. The dream of a permanent home came true in 1976 when the City of Davenport bought the Annie Wittenmyer Complex and designated three cottages and the chapel for the program. Over the next four years, Junior Theatre, Inc. invested approximately \$750,000 and countless volunteer hours toward its renovation. Over the following 10 years participation decreased as expenses increased. In 2008 the Junior Theater was on the verge of closing shop permanently when Sheridan, more or less pleaded with the city to give him one year to rebuild the program. Fortunately for the Quad Cities, his request was granted, and the success story took off to reach previously unheard-of heights. DJT now offers theater classes, camps, and workshops as well as dance classes in ballet, tap, jazz, and hip hop. There are even classes in tumbling. They continue to offer mainstage productions in the renovated Mary Fluhrer-Nighswander Theatre, a 350-seat house, fully equipped with a sound system and extensive lighting capabilities. The Covid-19 pandemic cause the program to close its doors on March 17<sup>th</sup>, however that obstacle only opened new opportunities. Rolled out just this week were datils on a new program of ZOOM Digital Classes. Starting in June each class will be a 4-week session on Zoom. In total, 50 Virtual classes are offered in theatre & dance with morning, afternoon and evening times available. Classes are open to kids ages 3-18. Registration is just \$20 per class. As Mr. Sheridan stated, although Davenport is in their name, Junior Theatre is a Quad Cities treasure serving children from more than 35 communities. Thanks Daniel for a great and informative program.



P.O. Box 4514  
Rock Island, IL 61204  
[www.rirotary.com](http://www.rirotary.com)

## Officers

Mark Mayeski, President  
Angela Campbell, 1st VP  
Justin Peterson, 2nd VP  
Anne McGlynn, Secretary  
Carrie Crossen, Treasurer  
Sue Cassatt, Past Pres.  
Co-Sergeants at Arms  
Cindi Gramenz  
Bob Swanson

## Board Members

Rick Emery  
Kathy Lelonek  
John Oliger  
Bill Stengel  
Howard Beck  
Kim Calhoun  
Cindi Gramenz  
Eric Westphall

## Program Chairs 2019-20

Aug. – Sep. Kathy Trone  
Oct. – Nov Cindi Gramenz  
Dec. – Jan John Wetzel  
Feb. – Linda Golden  
Mar. – May: Gary Rowe  
June – July: Tom Hammar

Have a program idea? Contact  
the chairman listed above for a  
possible date.

## Club Notes & Announcements!

□ **WELCOME GUESTS!** Rock Island Rotary welcomed one visiting Rotarians to today's meeting. Frequent guest and friend, Duncan Cameron from the Naples Florida Club. Guests are always welcomed.

□ **SERVICE** – Rotary members are needed to help with the Heart of Hope Food Pantry. We help every Thursday. The Pantry serves those in walkers and scooters starting at 4:30 pm. The distribution to the general public will begin at 5:30 pm as normal but will only last until 6:30 pm. The do not need our help to serve the early group, therefore, the volunteer time need is only one hour. During the current health crisis, the needs of the less fortunate still exists and may even become greater. People still are hungry and still need the food they receive from Heart of Hope Food Pantry. The plan at this time is for the operation of the Food Pantry to continue and our help and support is still needed. But the distribution system of food has changed. Instead of a shopping format where the guest walks through the building selecting the food they want, the food now is pre-packed into bags and just handed out to the guests. Contact with the public is reduced considerably. Food will be delivered to the elderly and disabled so that that population does not have to leave their homes. Used but sound plastic bags are needed now even more than in the past. Drop off bags anytime the Heart of Hope Center is open. Call Steve Morenz to volunteer to help at 309-721-7632 or just show up any Thursday at 5:15 to help pack bags. It's easy duty! Food will be packaged and handed out. Clients will not come into the food pantry until further notice.

□ **ROTARIANS ARE REMINDED** to purchase Wine Raffle Tickets from Ruth Lee. Just send a check and she will take care of filling out your stubs! Tickets also available for you to sell, \$5 each or 5 for \$20. We need to get behind this important fundraiser. Make checks payable to Rock Island Rotary with memo note, "Wine Raffle" Thanks for helping!

□ **BORED STAYING AT HOME?** Grab your Club Directory and call 3 Rotarians a day. Just chat, find out how they are doing and let them know how you're doing. Maintaining a semblance of social contact is good for you and may just "make the day" for the Rotarian you call.

□ **SEND ITEMS** for publication in our newsletter to [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net)  
We are happy to promote anything relating to Rock Island Rotary.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROTARIANS



Brett Hitchcock	May 2
Angela Campbell	May 5
Ruth Lee	May 6
Kimberly Calhoun	May 11
Susan Lerchen-Cassatt	May 21
Cindi Gramenz	May 24
Eric Westphall	May 28
Jay Stanley	May 29



## FOUNDATION MINUTE

It's Week 3 of Rotary's Maternal and Child Health Month. As is now common knowledge, a lot has happened to derail the Rotary's calendar and agenda for this month. Most countries of the world have been sorely impacted by the devastating COVID-19. However, in spite of the alarming rates of death and destruction, Rotarians have been living up to the motto they hold so dear: Service Above Self. In line with this motto, Rotary clubs around the world have been doing their best to help communities cope with the on-going onslaught. Many clubs have taken to virtual meetings and donated the cost of their weekly meals to local food pantries and kitchens. District 5440, comprising 53 clubs have donated a total sum of \$53,000 to food banks and pantries, including \$11,500 to Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies. This donation, matched by Rotary International Relief Fund, will provide 212,000 meals to people in the region affected by COVID-19. In a news release, the President of Rotary Club of Cheyenne, Robin Sims explained that the Wyoming Food Bank in 2019 distributed 8.2 million meals in partnership with food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters. "We are members of our communities and are proud that Wyoming Rotarians can support the people of Wyoming during this crisis."

The Rotary Foundation Club of Tulsa has donated a sum of \$68,000 to help 4 local nonprofit organizations cope with the demands of their clients. Meals on Wheels of Metro Tulsa received \$18,000 to replace its existing kitchen equipment with a new high-tech state of the art commercial kitchen. The Good Samaritan Health Services will receive \$16,000 for vehicle maintenance/repairs.

The Rotary Club of Berea (OH) acquired a Moonbeam 3 Module Disinfection Device for the Berea Fire Department. This device uses ultraviolet light to disinfect ambulances between 3 and 5 minutes. Moonbeam 3 replaces the previous manual disinfection which typically lasted a minimum of 20 minutes. District 7475 of New Jersey is at it again; this time donating a much-needed critical care equipment to Overlook Medical Center in Summit. To help the medical center cope with the demands of COVID-19, the district raised \$34,000 to buy one critical care bed for the ICU. This bed is useful for at least 12 years and can be wheeled from one area to another. The center needs at least 20 such beds. To donate, contact: <https://www.njrotary.org>

"Rotarians are very much more favorably disposed toward action than they are toward words." Paul Harris, Rotary Club of Chicago, November 1912.

**In 1912 Paul Harris said, "Rotarians are very much more favorably disposed toward action than they are toward words." It is great to know that nothing has changed in 108 years! Rotarians = Action.**

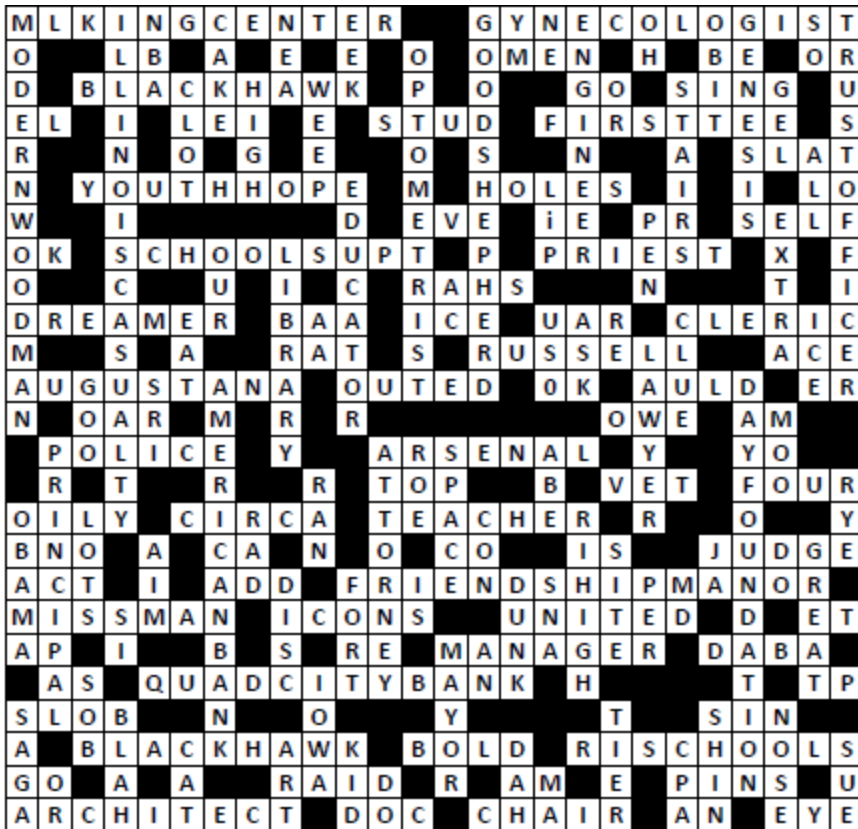
## BOB SWANSON STEPS INTO THE SPOTLIGHT



This week's featured club member is Sergeant at Arms, Bob Swanson. He was born and raised in Monmouth, Illinois, the son of two teachers. His dad taught government and economics and also coached baseball and tennis. Bob's mother was a music teacher and church organist. His dad was a Rotarian and his mom was the Rotary Club piano player (before women could be members). Bob was active in music and sports throughout high school and college and continued playing adult basketball and softball for many years. Bob attended Western Illinois University where he earned a BA in Speech/Communications and an MA in Communication Arts. He participated on the university debate team for 3 years. Bob has had many careers, starting as a teenager delivering pizza and working on a construction crew building homes and even a church. During his college years he was a radio disc jockey in Macomb, Illinois. After graduation he became debate coach and speech teacher at Maine East High School in the Chicago suburb of Park Ridge. The success of his debate team led to his hiring as associate debate coach and speech instructor at Augustana College and brought about his move to Rock Island. He got involved in the real estate business and ultimately began teaching part-time and working full time for David M. Weiner & Associates a Moline based Realtor. He rose through the ranks and after stints in sales, sale managing, and office managing, became vice-president and General Manager of the company. After 8 years with the firm Bob decided to return to school and enrolled in the Northern Illinois University College of Law. He earned his JD and returned to the Quad Cities in private practice with Schrager, Blackwood, & Nowinski in Moline. He became a partner in the firm and the name was changed to Blackwood, Huntoon, Nowinski, & Swanson. After 13 years practicing law, Bob retired and returned to his roots in education becoming Athletic Director for the Rock Island – Milan School District. He held that position for 14 years, retiring in 2012. Bob joined Rock Island Rotary in 1992 and served as club president for 2003-2004. He is a Paul Harris Fellow +5. He was our 2012 Excellence Award recipient, our 2014 A.T. Peara Award winner, and our 2019 Luckenbill-Wray Award recipient. In addition to serving as Club Sergeant at Arms, Bob is the editor of our weekly newsletter.



## Solution 4/28/20 Rotary Crossword



## UNABLE TO "ATTEND" OUR ZOOM MEETINGS?

If your schedule causes you to miss one of our Rotary Meetings held via ZOOM, do not despair! Each ZOOM meeting is, or will be, recorded and is posted on our [www.rirotary.com](http://www.rirotary.com) Club Webpage.

You can watch the entire meeting at your leisure. Just click on VIDEO MEETINGS and select April 14, April 28, etc.

ZOOM meetings will be added as they occur. Nothing special needed, just your computer.

Stay in touch and stay well! Check out our webpage and do not miss a meeting!

## THE TAB CONTINUES PROFITABLE GROWTH!

Even in the absence of our official "finer", President Mark continued vice-president Angela Campbell's call for "Happy Dollars" in lieu of fines. This week news was reported by Ruth Lee regarding the Rotary Disaster Relief Fund Telethon which she described as "extremely inspiring". Holly Sparkman reported plans for a virtual graduation for the Rocky Class of 2020 on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> and a tentative "live" graduation at the Tax Slayer Center on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cindi Gramenz confessed to typing during our last two meetings. Sue Cassatt reported some incredibly sad news, the loss of her mother to Covid-19 this past week. Our prayers and best wishes are with you.



## COVID-19 CAN'T STOP R.I. ROTARY'S GOOD WORK!

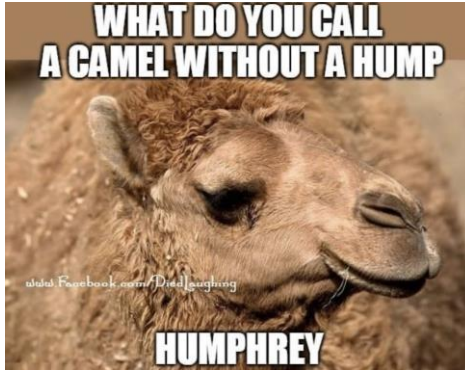
Rock Island Rotary President Mark Mayeski (left) and Friendship Manor CFO/Rock Island Rotarian Rick Devinney present a \$1,000 check to Friendship Manor Development Director Jeff Condit (middle) for their efforts during the pandemic. Keeping social distancing in mind of course!





# OK – IT'S TIME TO LAUGH!

From Ruth Lee



Bud Phillis

Ruth Lee

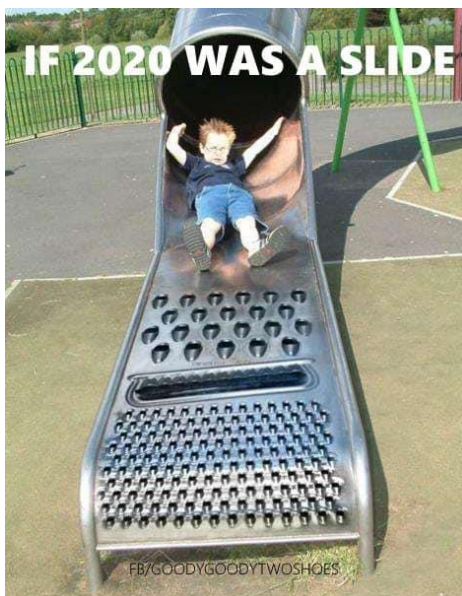


Bud Phillis

From Bud Phillis



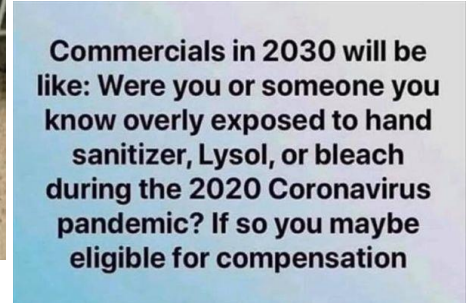
Bud Phillis



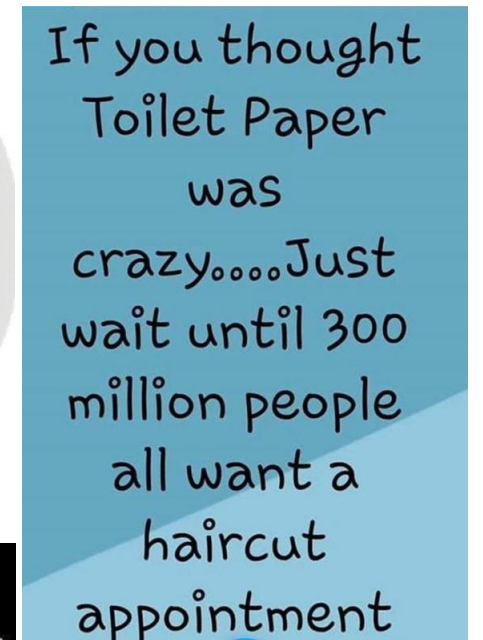
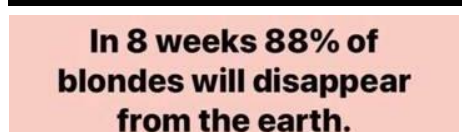
Bud Phillis



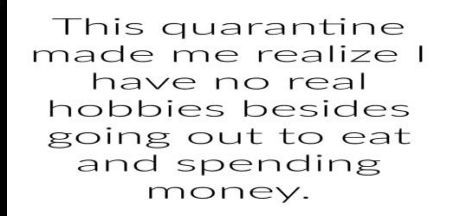
Bud Phillis



Bud Phillis



Bud Phillis



Our campaign ends on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. \$50 club prize for the closest guess in the club. Proceeds go to our own Rock Island Rotary Foundation. Money raised will have a guaranteed match of 5% (last year it was 7.25%). Our goal is 40 pledges for \$2.25. Print the second page, fill out and send to Kevin Koski, 1309 - 38<sup>th</sup> Ave. Ct., Rock Island 61201. If you cannot print the pledge form, you can email or phone Kevin with your information. He will fill out a form for you. Email to [kevinkoski3@gmail.com](mailto:kevinkoski3@gmail.com), or call (309) 788-6007.

## The Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund continues the bonus promise

The Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund was established to support the continuing efforts of the John Deere Classic, a 501(C)(3) not-for-profit organization, to provide bonus dollars to participating charities. To qualify, charities must be publicly supported and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(C)(3) organization. All charitable contributions must come from a designated donor, and must not be part of a capital campaign. The Birdies for Charity program is intended to support charitable organizations, services, operations and programs. It is not intended to be used for endowment or brick and mortar charitable purposes.

As before, the tournament will provide a bonus to all participating charities. This year, all charities will be guaranteed a 5% bonus on amounts up to their prior year pledge total, or \$100,000, whichever is greater. Additional bonus dollars will be based on tournament revenues. The Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund is the source of these bonus dollars. This fund is supported with dollars from tournament revenues, individual donors, and corporations. These dollars will be distributed annually, and are designed not to compete with, but to enhance the benefits for the over 500 charities that participate in the program. So, if you are not already participating, this is the year to hop on board.



JULY 6-12, 2020

Sponsored by:



Grand Prize Sponsor:



Media Sponsors:



# Chip in for your charity

OFFICIAL PLEDGE CARD 2020



BIRDIES FOR CHARITY

15623 Coaltown Rd, East Moline, Illinois 61244





## ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CLUB

CHARITY SOLICITED FOR

937

BIRD NUMBER

### I pledge and promise to donate:

☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ one-time flat donation.  
Please attach payment. Checks payable to  
Quad Cities Golf Classic Charitable Foundation.  
OR

☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ for every birdie made  
during the John Deere Classic.

☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_

extra donation to the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund

*Donations to the BFC Bonus Fund (#1041) benefit all participating charities.*

### GUESS THE BIRDIES & WIN A TWO YEAR LEASE ON A 2020 LEXUS NX!

I guess that \_\_\_\_\_ birdies will be made.

Only 1 grand prize will be awarded. Void where  
prohibited by law.

### BIRDIES SCORED (YEAR)

2,160 (2011)	2,040 (2014)	1,918 (2017)
2,113 (2012)	1,990 (2015)	2,355 (2018)
2,142 (2013)	1,982 (2016)	2,091 (2019)

### PLEDGE INFORMATION (Please print)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE OR EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

# Chip in for your chance to win

When you chip in to help area charities, you can win some great prizes. But your favorite charity will be the real winner. That's because participating charities receive every single penny of the donations from this program, plus a bonus from the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund which is a guaranteed 5% match.

### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

Simply make a one-time flat donation OR pledge one cent or more per birdie. After the tournament, you'll be mailed a notice of your pledge amount due.

To enter the contest, guess the number of birdies that will actually be made by PGA Tour Pros during the tournament, Wednesday through Sunday. A grand prize will be given to one person who guesses the correct number. In case of ties, winners will be randomly selected.

### KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

*Your pledge is based on actual  
number of birdies scored.*

I pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_ one-time donation

OR \$\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ per birdie

If 2,000 birdies are made, my total pledge would be:

1¢ = \$20	3¢ = \$60	5¢ = \$100
2¢ = \$40	4¢ = \$80	10¢ = \$200

I guessed \_\_\_\_\_ birdies would be made

### GRAND PRIZE:

**2 YEAR LEASE ON A 2020 LEXUS NX**



**LEXUS**  
SMART LEXUS OF QUAD CITIES

One lucky supporter of the John Deere Classic's Birdies for Charity program will win a 2 year lease on a 2020 Lexus NX, courtesy of Smart Lexus of the Quad Cities. Other prizes awarded by random drawing.

### CONTEST RULES

- Only 1 grand prize awarded. Ties and other prizes determined by random drawing.
- All guesses must be on an official pledge card and received at the tournament office by July 10, 2020.
- Rules are available at [www.birdiesforcharity.com](http://www.birdiesforcharity.com).
- No pledge or purchase required. Need not be present to win.

Pledges submitted after the JDC may be applied the following year.



78.4%

